

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re

U.S. Application of:

Dennis Ray WILSON

For:

BURN ASSISTED FRACTURING OF
UNDERGROUND COAL BED

U.S. Serial No.:

10/656,436

Confirmation No.:

8479

Filed:

September 5, 2003

Group Art Unit:

3672

Examiner:

To Be Assigned

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited
with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in
an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O.
Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

DECEMBER 22, 2003

Date of Deposit

DAVID L. HITCHCOCK

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered
Representative

Signature

DECEMBER 22, 2003

Date of Signature

Dear Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant wishes to bring the following items to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of each document is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

No representation is made, and no representation is intended, that more relevant material does not exist, or that the order of presentation of this material in any way reflects

its relative pertinence. The references cited below are not intended to constitute an admission of any kind.

The following document is cited in the specification of the application:

- (1) Ginsburgh et al, U.S. Patent No. 4,271,904, issued June 9, 1981;

Applicant also wishes to bring to the attention of the Examiner the following documents:

- (2) Pasini, III et al, U.S. Patent No. 3,933,447, issued January 20, 1976;
- (3) Shuck, U.S. Patent No. 4,026,356, issued May 31, 1977;
- (4) Steeman, U.S. Patent No. 4,245,699, issued January 20, 1981;
- (5) Tsai et al, U.S. Patent No. 4,299,285, issued November 10, 1981;
- (6) Ginsburgh et al, U.S. Patent No. 4,343,361, issued August 10, 1982;
- (7) Palmer et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,417,286, issued May 23, 1995;
- (8) Palmer et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,494,108, issued February 27, 1996;
- (9) Chaback et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,566,756, issued October 22, 1996;
- (10) Wilson et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,653,287, issued August 5, 1997;
- (11) Riese et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,669,444, issued September 23, 1997;
- (12) Riese, U.S. Patent No. 5,853,224, issued December 29, 1998;
- (13) Riese et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,865,248, issued February 2, 1999;
- (14) Joh, U.S. Patent No. 5,868,248, issued February 9, 1999;

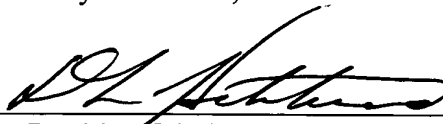
- (15) Riese et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,944,104, issued August 31, 1999;
- (16) Riese et al, U. Patent No. 5,964,290, issued October 12, 1999;
- (17) Kagan et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,967,223, issued October 19, 1999;
- (18) Hsu et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,016,873, issued January 25, 2000;
- (19) Montgomery et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,024,171, issued February 15, 2000;
- (20) Seidle et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,119,778, issued September 19, 2000;
- (21) Mones, U.S. Patent No. 6,244,338 B1, issued June 12, 2001;
- (22) Zupanick, U.S. Patent No. 6,280,000 B1, issued August 28, 20;
- (23) Gunter et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,412,559 B1, issued July 2, 2002; and
- (24) Mones, U.S. Patent No. 6,450,256 B2, issued September 17, 2002.

As this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of the first Office Action, no fee is required. If it should be determined that a fee is required, please charge any required fee (other than the issue fee) during the pendency of this application to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Please credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

Serial No. 10/656,436

Respectfully submitted,

By:



David L. Hitchcock

Reg. No. 30,067

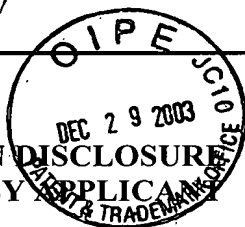
Attorney for Applicant

DLH/llb
SIDLEY AUSTIN BROWN & WOOD LLP
717 N. Harwood, Suite 3400
Dallas, Texas 75201
Direct: (214) 981-3311
Main: (214) 981-3300
Facsimile: (214) 981-3400
December 22, 2003

DAI 279967v1

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

**Complete if Known**

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Application Number | 10/656,436 |
| Confirmation No. | 8479 |
| Filing Date | September 5, 2003 |
| First Inventor | Dennis Ray WILSON |
| Group Art Unit | 3672 |
| Examiner Name | To Be Assigned |
| Attorney Docket No. | 18326/03901 |

Sheet 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials | Cite # | DOCUMENT NUMBER | C O D E | PATENTEE | ISSUE DATE (mm/dd/yy) | CLASS | SUB CLASS | Filing Date if Appropriate |
|----------------------|-----------|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| | (1) | 4,271,904 | | Ginsburgh et al | 06/09/81 | 166 | 251 | |
| | (2) | 3,933,447 | | Pasini, III et al | 01/20/76 | 48 | 210 | |
| | (3) | 4,026,356 | | Shuck | 05/31/77 | 166 | 259 | |
| | (4) | 4,245,699 | | Steeman | 01/20/81 | 166 | 271 | |
| | (5) | 4,299,285 | | Tsai et al | 11/10/81 | 166 | 259 | |
| | (6) | 4,343,361 | | Ginsburgh et al | 08/10/82 | 166 | 251 | |
| | (7) | 5,417,286 | | Palmer et al | 05/23/95 | 166 | 308 | |
| | (8) | 5,494,108 | | Palmer et al | 02/27/96 | 166 | 308 | |
| | (9) | 5,566,756 | | Chaback et al | 10/22/96 | 166 | 263 | |
| | (10) | 5,653,287 | | Wilson et al | 08/05/97 | 166 | 302 | |
| | (11) | 5,669,444 | | Riese et al | 09/23/97 | 166 | 263 | |
| | (12) | 5,853,224 | | Riese | 12/29/98 | 299 | 13 | |
| | (13) | 5,865,248 | | Riese et al | 02/02/99 | 166 | 263 | |
| | (14) | 5,868,248 | | Joh | 02/09/99 | 206 | 315.6 | |
| | (15) | 5,944,104 | | Riese et al | 08/31/99 | 166 | 263 | |
| | (16) | 5,964,290 | | Riese et al | 10/12/99 | 166 | 263 | |
| | (17) | 5,967,223 | | Kagan et al | 10/19/99 | 164 | 481 | |
| | (18) | 6,016,873 | | Hsu et al | 01/25/00 | 166 | 402 | |
| | (19) | 6,024,171 | | Montgomery et al | 02/15/00 | 166 | 308 | |
| | (20) | 6,119,778 | | Seidle et al | 09/19/00 | 166 | 263 | |
| | (21) | 6,244,338 | B1 | Mones | 06/12/01 | 166 | 245 | |
| | (22) | 6,280,000 | B1 | Zupanick | 08/28/01 | 299 | 12 | |
| | (23) | 6,412,559 | B1 | Gunter et al | 07/02/02 | 166 | 271 | |
| | (24) | 6,450,256 | B2 | Mones | 09/17/02 | 166 | 250.01 | |

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Examiner Initials | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published | | |
| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with the next communication to applicant.